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13. Head of Sebec Lake, Piscataquis Co. 2552-2677
 No. 1828 was collected at camp 4, near Maxfield, and no. 2011
 at Howland.
 NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN.

REVIEWS

Keller and Brown's *Flora of Philadelphia* *

This handbook, based chiefly upon data patiently gathered during many years by the members of the Philadelphia Botanical Club and their friends, should provide a marked stimulus to further study of the flora of the district of which Philadelphia is the center. The species enumerated are not described, but a full system of keys permits fairly accurate determinations in the field without the use of a more cumbrous text-book, while in each case there is a reference to the page of Britton's *Manual* where a description may be found. Recent work upon *Crataegus* has compelled special treatment of this genus, and the key to the eighty-five species has been prepared by Mr. B. H. Smith.

In general plan this volume resembles strikingly Porter's *Flora of Pennsylvania*, published about two years ago ; it includes within its scope, however, the plants of the southeastern portion only of Pennsylvania, and in addition those of northern Delaware and of the southern two-thirds of New Jersey. The two books are worthy models for future ones of their class. There is nothing relating to geographical distribution nor to ecological conditions within the region, but an omission of this kind causes no regret in the case of a work with such an artificial geographical limit and such a definite purpose as a field manual.

The thin paper used is so transparent as to interfere with the clearness of the text. However, lightness and compactness are of importance in a flora intended for use in the field, and in this instance a book of 368 octavo pages has been reduced to half an inch in thickness and a pound in weight. Typographical errors seem to be fewer than might reasonably be expected.

* Keller, Ida A., and Brown, Stewardson. *Handbook of the Flora of Philadelphia and Vicinity*. Pp. viii + 360. Philadelphia, 1905. (For sale by Stewardson Brown, Acad. of Natural Sciences, Logan Square, Philadelphia. \$2.00 net ; by mail, \$2.10.)

By the appearance of this volume, the botanists of Philadelphia are provided with a pocket companion for their journeys afield more satisfactory than any available for other parts of our country. There is little room, apparently, for improvement in later editions, save in the insertion of newly acquired data and the addition of a good map of the region.

JOHN HENDLEY BARNHART.

Lord Avebury's Notes on the Life History of British Flowering Plants*

This work is not intended to be in any sense a manual for the determination of the species inhabiting the British Isles, but instead, taking up the flora in Bentham's sequence and in general with his specific limitations, it furnishes descriptions of the various plants in such a way as to emphasize the points in their structure which bear most directly upon the peculiar problems presented by their life conditions.

The spirit of the author is perhaps best indicated by the conclusion to the introduction in which he says : " To many, indeed, systematic botany is the most interesting department of the science ; to others it is the entrance and outer court of the temple ; and when we realise that for every shade of colour, for all the exquisite beauty of flowers, for the endless difference in the size, forms, and textures of leaves, for the shape and colour of fruits and seeds, there are, if we only knew them, good and sufficient reasons, nature seems endowed with new and vivid life, with enhanced claims on our love, wonder, and devotion."

From this point of view a great mass of facts is presented dealing especially with such subjects as fertilization and seed distribution but also including almost every line of inquiry connected with plant life.

Although the flora dealt with is so limited in range, the book will be of interest and value alike to students and nature-lovers in every locality. This is especially true of the introduction, wherein a concise but comprehensive general discussion of its many problems supplies a most readable summary of the subject.

* Avebury, Lord (John Lubbock). *Notes on the Life History of British Flowering Plants*. 8vo. Pp. i-xxiii + 1-450. *f. 1-352*. London and New York, 1905. The Macmillan Co.